

REMARKS

Claims 144-156, 159-170, 177, 179 and 183-194 presently appear in this case. No claims have been allowed. The present supplemental amendment is being made to supplement applicants' amendment of April 28, 2004, and add additional dependent claims. In light of the filing of a Request for Continued Examination on even date herewith, it is respectfully requested that the present supplemental amendment be considered in conjunction with applicants' amendment of April 28, 2004.

The present amendment amends claim 183 in order to provide better antecedent basis for the recitation in paragraph (e) that none of the expressed peptides are the single biological unit. The new "wherein" clause added between steps (b) and (c) provides that the providing and creating steps are accomplished such that none of the oligonucleotides created thereby encode said original single biological unit. While this thought is inherently present in light of the language of paragraph (e), it was thought better to make it explicit in the claim, rather than leaving it implicit. The same language is used in new claim 186, which is similar to claim 159 as it appeared prior to applicants' amendment of April 28, 2004, but which adds the "wherein" clause that was added to claim 183.

New claims 187-194 have also been added in order to add different combinations and permutations of the features of claims 144, 183 and 184. Thus, claims 144 and 159 contain the feature that any oligonucleotide in the library can ligate with any other oligonucleotide in the library in step (b). This will be referred to herein as Feature A. Claim 183 includes the feature that the providing and creating steps are accomplished such that none of the oligonucleotides created thereby encode the original single biological unit and, therefore, the single biological unit in step (e) is not present in the screening step. This will be referred to as Feature B. Claim 184 includes the feature that the protein has a single definable sequence. This will be referred to as Feature C. Thus, claims 144 and 159 have Feature A; claims 183 and 186 have Feature B; and claims 184 and 185 have Feature C. Claims 187 and 188 have Features A and B; claims 189 and 190 have Features B and C; claims 191 and 192 have Features A and C; and claims 193 and 194 have all of Features A, B and C. All of these new claims are allowable for the same reasons as discussed in applicants' amendment of April 28, 2004, for each of the features presented therein.

Accordingly, consideration of the present supplemental amendment in conjunction with applicants'

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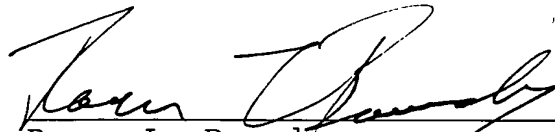
Supplemental Reply to Office action of November 28, 2003

amendment of April 28, 2004, prompt reconsideration and  
allowance are earnestly solicited.

Respectfully submitted,

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